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50c. PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE

KILLING SURPLUS OF DRONES

California Bee Keeper Gives Description of Sieve He Has Used and Found to Be Satisfactory.

W. A. Sedding of Monterey, Cal., gives in Gleanings the following quick way of killing a surplus of drones:

"I have read in the two journals a description of a queen-sieve and its uses, but never saw a drone-sieve described, although the occasion for its use may arise in every apiary sometimes. Here is one that I have been using with good results: I nail a queen-excluder to the bottom of an empty hive body and set it on top of another hive body close to the hive to be operated on, and shake into this sieve bees and drones from every comb except the queen, and cover it as quickly as possible. After replacing the combs I put a Porter bee escape on top, and on this the sieve with the drones, after having brushed off the bees that have clustered on the under side of the sieve. Next morning you find all the bees that remained with the drones have passed down the escape, and the drones on their backs kicking the bucket. To shorten the agony of death, I put the sieve over a teaspoonful of burning sulphur, and in a minute it's all over."

REPOSITORY FOR SEED CORN

Details of Rack That is Mouse-Proof and as Each Ear is Separate They Dry Out Quickly.

Here is a very useful rack for saving and drying seed corn. To make it, take two pieces of 2x6, 4 feet long, for the bed pieces, and two pieces of 2x1, 6 feet long, for the upright posts. Gain the posts on to the bed pieces and bolt and nail them securely, says the Farm and Home. Then take two six-quart milk pans and place the end of the post in the center of the pan and mark it.

Cut two slits cornerwise across the place marked on the pan, turn up the points and slide the pan down over the post to a point 20 inches from the bottom and nail it to the posts. Now take 1x12-inch hardwood boards of whatever length you wish to make the rack and nail them to the posts 1 1/2 inches apart.

With a pair of dividers set to 2 1/2 inches, commence at one end of each from the lower edge of the bottom of



A Compartment for Each Ear.

the board and space up to the top of the boarding. Space up the same on the other end and with a chalk line strike lines from end to end.

Then set the dividers at 1 1/2 inches, and commencing 1/2 inch from the inside of the post space lengthwise on top and bottom of boarding. With a straightedge or chalk line make perpendicular lines. With a 11-64 bit or drill bore a hole at each intersection, and drive 20d spikes from both ways as illustrated. This will give a 2-inch circle for each ear of corn.

If you cannot get a 1x12-inch hardwood board for this purpose, get 2x12 plank and use 30d spikes. A space 2 1/2 feet square, using both sides of the rack, will hold a bushel of corn. The rows at the bottom of the rack show the heads of the spikes. This rack is mouse-proof and as each ear is kept from coming in contact with the others, the corn will quickly dry out.

Bees and Farm Notes

Cut the silage into one-half inch pieces. Distribute thoroughly in silo and pack well. Corn cut too early makes sour, watery silage.

Cut corn for silage when kernels begin to glaze. Good farming is impossible without good fences.

A little wet straw with oats sown on it seals the silo effectively.

The improvement and utilization of muck land is increasing rapidly.

When plowing in the fall is one of the best times for deepening the soil.

If corn is dry when put into the silo, wet it by running water into the blower.

Watch your machinery for loose bolts and nuts, and don't forget the oil can.

Barbed wire fences are not worth while if you can't keep them well stretched and stapled.

There is a tendency on the part of some seedmen to introduce old varieties under new names.

Muck is an abnormal soil consisting largely of the remains of plants in an advanced stage of decay.



FRESH EGGS IN GOOD DEMAND

Little More Attention to Details Will Result in Profit, Repaying Time and Labor.

(By PROF. A. G. PHILLIPS, Kansas.) The demand for eggs seems practically unlimited, more especially for the better grades. The growth of the storage industry has tended to equalize prices by increasing the demand in summer when fresh eggs are plentiful and supplying the deficiency in winter when fresh eggs are scarce.

Since the demand is greatest for the best grades, it seems obvious that a little more attention to details will result in a profit amply repaying the extra time and labor involved.

It is not the purpose here to enter into any discussion of the ways of increasing the production of eggs, but simply to point out the possibilities



An Excellent Egg Candler.

of profit. In the care in handling and marketing the eggs now produced, the extra profit is to be made by obtaining the top retail price, and, as consumers become acquainted with the product, by obtaining a premium of from one to five cents per dozen over the regular price paid for ordinary eggs.

In order to obtain top prices for eggs, they must be uniform in size, uniform in color, and uniform in quality. The uniformity in color is not always important and depends on the market; uniformity in size excludes small eggs and unusually large ones as well; while uniformity in quality calls for absolutely clean eggs that have been gathered promptly after being laid, kept under the best possible conditions, and marketed not more than three or four days after they are laid.

TEACHING HEN GOOD LESSON

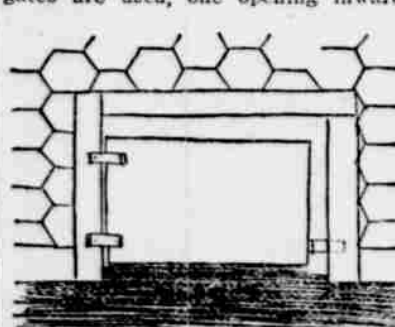
Poultry Gate as Shown in the Illustration Will Save Cussing and Garden Truck.

Barrels of perspiration may be saved by the poultry gate shown herewith, which is reproduced, with the article from the New England Homestead. Whoever has unintentionally acquired the hen chasing, hen-cussing habit may cure himself with this little device.

In the fence, preferably at a point near where the fowls are fed, a little door about 10 by 12 inches is hung on the inside of the yard, so as to always swing shut without springs. It is stopped from swinging outward by the peg shown at the right.

Mrs. Hen, returning repentant from the garden, will poke her head into every mesh of the fence in her efforts to rejoin her happy companions. The gate will thus allow her to enter without excitement or commotion from the herd of the harem from the traitor owner.

But another advantage may be gained by using the gate in connection with the laying pens. If the two gates are used, one opening inward



Garden or Nest Gate.

In front of the nest, the other opening outward at the back or the side, so that the hens may go to another yard after laying, the poultryman may know which hens have and have not laid. Thus he may avoid the trouble usually connected with ordinary trap nests.

Breeders for Next Year.

This is the season of the year to buy your breeders for next, as now the large breeders are selling at bargain prices in order to have the room needed for the growing stock.

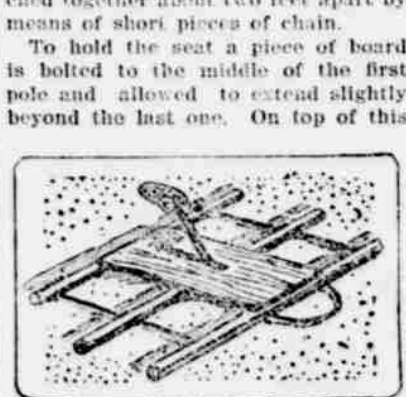


POLE DRAG IS SERVICEABLE

Implement Should Be Drawn by Short Piece of Chain Attached to Center of Pole.

If you don't possess a land roller, the next best thing is a pole drag. The one shown in the cut is better than a roller for leveling and pulverizing the soil. It is composed of three hardwood poles 6 inches through and 7 feet long, writes Fred O. Shelby in the Farm and Home. They are fastened together about two feet apart by means of short pieces of chain.

To hold the seat a piece of board is bolted to the middle of the first pole and allowed to extend slightly beyond the last one. On top of this



Serviceable Pole Drag.

an old mowing machine seat is fastened, and the arrangement is such that while the seat is held in place the poles may work independently of each other. As the seat is bolted to the board, it can easily be removed, making the implement much easier to house when not in use. The drag should be drawn by a short piece of chain attached to the center of the first pole, as is indicated.

ALFALFA AS A SOILING CROP

Few Rations for All Kinds of Farm Animals That Cannot Be Improved by Addition of Hay.

(By W. M. KELLEY.) On most farms where only a few acres of alfalfa can be grown successfully, I think the most will be realized from it, to cut the crop green and use it for green feeding. It is the best soiling crop that we can grow for all kinds of farm animals. There are few rations that cannot be improved both in economy and efficiency by the addition of alfalfa.

When using it for soiling purposes there is danger in feeding it to hungry sheep and cattle unless fed in moderate quantities after it has wilted. In my own practice I have found it safe to allow it to become wilted before feeding it to the sheep and cattle in the yards and stables.

In this way we can now mow enough to last two or three days at a time and haul it to the various feeding places for use when it is needed. It will keep in excellent condition if placed in coops as soon as it is wilted and covered with cloth or canvas covers. In this way it escapes drying to brittleness and still keeps in ideal condition for feeding.

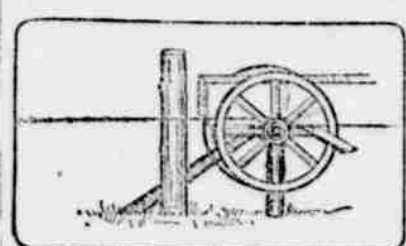
There is no danger in feeding wilted alfalfa to sheep and cattle that have become gradually accustomed to eating it. Many feeders give it to their work teams, but it requires the best of judgment to keep work teams in good vigorous condition and every change in the line of feeding should be gradual.

It is a good plan to cut and cure the first cutting for hay and then depend upon the later cuttings to supplement the pastures. A few acres of this valuable forage crop should be established on every stock farm.

WAY FOR STRETCHING WIRE

By Use of Wagon and Piece of Timber Hundred Yards May Be Tightened With One Pull.

To stretch a wire, back the wagon up to within a few feet of the corner post so that the inside of the wheel is in line with the fence. Raise the side of the wagon so the wheel will clear the ground and prop it up with a board. Then take a 2x4 about seven feet long, and place one end against the axle and the other on the ground, says the Iowa Homestead. After this is done tie a strong rope to one spoke inside the wheel, then to the wire and slowly turn the wheel, the rope



Wire Stretcher.

wrapping around the hub tightening the wire. When you think the wire is tight enough place a piece of board between the spoke and bottom of the wagon box as shown in the illustration. This will keep the wire from stacking. From 80 to 100 rods of wire can be tightened in this way in one pull.

CURRENT WIT and HUMOR



Periodical Drinker.

A doctor's patient in Excelsior Springs the other day was answering the usual list of queries, prior to entering upon a course of treatment.

"Are you a steady or a periodical drinker?" asked the physician.

"Periodical," was the reply.

"How long between periods?"

The poor fellow studied a moment, that he might answer correctly, and replied:

"About twenty minutes."—Kansas City Star.

Never Again for Him.

"I bought the house I'm living in for about a fifth of its actual value, because it was supposed to be haunted; but I wouldn't give 10 cents for another 'haunted' house, if I knew it to be worth \$20,000."

"You haven't found a ghost, have you?"

"Certainly not. My wife refuses to stay in the place at night unless I'm there, though."

Life in a Large City.

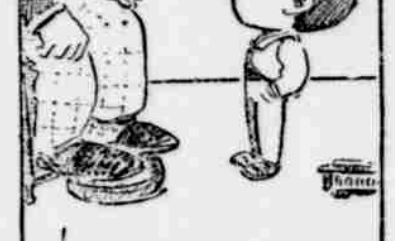
"Don't you carry a revolver or a knife to protect yourself?" asked Bill the Barbar.

"No," replied his pal. "I go entirely unarmed."

"But suppose some rude person interferes with you when you are at work?"

"I always have my police whistle with me."

HAD TRIED TO EAT SOME.



Tommy—Say, pop, what is home-made angel food?

Pop—Second cousin to Paris green, carbolic acid and green apples.

Most Unusual Case.

I want to know a public man—You may not think it true, but when he for an office ran The wires he pulled were few.

Left a Few.

"I suppose," said the disgruntled young man when the producing manager handed back his play, "that you have stolen all my bright ideas."

"Oh, not all of them," the manager gravely replied. "I don't want to get so many bright ideas as to be considered supernatural."

Gossip.

"Some folks were highly excited when they heard the other day that young Charles Sotford was caught kissing another man's wife."

"Good gracious! Who was the creature?"

"Don't get excited. It was his mother."

Low Grade of Knowledge.

"Did young Charlie Goldie call on you last night?"

"Yes, he calls almost every night."

"That sounds serious. What sort of young man is he—pretty intelligent?"

"Intelligent! Why, say, he doesn't know enough to embrace an opportunity."

Welcome Arrival.

"I don't think we had better lose any time about calling on our new neighbors," said Mrs. Mainchance.

"Why?" inquired her husband.

"I have watched them unload the moving van and they have a lot of things we will want to borrow."

A Holdup.

"Why did you give that servant such a free letter of recommendation?" asked one woman.

"I was willing to do anything," replied the other, "to get her to go away peacefully."

One on the Surgeon.

"When I die," remarked Cholly, "I think I'll leave my brain to some prominent surgeon."

"Don't do it," advised Almy. "These practical jokes are bad form; very bad form, old top."

OUT

They Go

CLEANING TIME

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Mrs. Grace Fortner, of Man, W. Va., took Cardui. This is what she says about it: "I was so weak and nervous, I could not bear to have anyone near me. I had fainting spells, and I lost flesh every day. The first dose of Cardui helped me. Now, I am entirely cured of the fainting spells, and I cannot say enough for Cardui, for I know it saved my life." It is the best tonic for women.

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